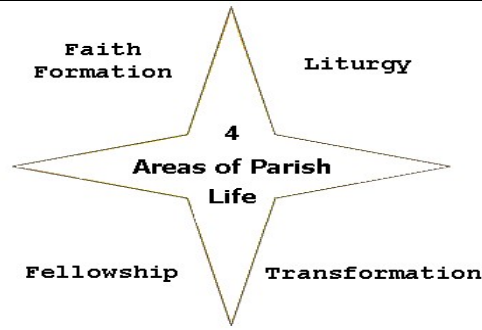




Our Lady of Victory
Built 1948
 490 Charles Street
 Gatineau, Québec
 J8L 2K5



St. Malachy
Built 1864
 3889 Route 315
 Mayo, Québec
 J8L 3Z8

5th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 6-7, 2021

MASS CANCELED

Celebration of the Eucharist

MASS CANCELED

Pastor Father Albanus Ogowuihe
Rectory 490 Charles Street, Gatineau, Québec, J8L 2K5
Secretary Monique Simpson
Email olv@videotron.ca
Office Hours **Monday** - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Wednesday - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Thursday - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Telephone (819) 986-3763
Website www.stmalachyolv.com



180, boul. Mont-Bleu
 Gatineau (QC) J8Z 3J5
www.diocesegatineau.org

Please note that our website includes the latest information received from the diocese, as well as all parish bulletins. See: stmalachyolv.com

Virtual Mass Celebrations – January 9, 2021 to February 8, 2021

In a continuing effort to offer mass celebrations to our parishioners for the next four weeks, we have come to an agreement with St. Aloysius to join their Zoom mass at 11:00 am on Sundays. The following is the Zoom link:

ZOOM MEETING INVITATION - ST ALOYSIUS SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Meeting ID	910 8890 8876
Passcode	D8z45N

The link will be open 15 minutes before the celebration.

In addition, Mass will be live streamed on the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Community page on Facebook. Make sure to “like” and “follow” their Facebook page (see link below) to be able to view the live stream at 11am.

<https://www.facebook.com/StAloysius-Gonzaga-Parish-Community-141740569252256>

The live stream will be saved on the Facebook page to be viewed at any time.

Fr. Albanus' Reflections on the Sunday Liturgy

Suffering, Ministry and Prayer



First Reading: Job 7.1-4, 6-7
Psalm: O that today you would listen to the voice of
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9.16-19, 22-23
Gospel: Mark 1.29-39

It is a truism that there is a lot of suffering in our world. Often, we feel so distraught in the face of diseases, calamities, wars, disappointments, exploitation and sufferings in our world. It is even more disturbing when the upright seem to suffer a lot. Today's **first reading** calls us to reflect on this. Job was a very religious person, always just and well-behaved and yet he was struck by an endless sequence of calamities. The initial attitude of Job as shown in this passage was pessimistic. He had a pessimistic and cynical view of life as a chain of pain and suffering as seen in this saying of his: *'my eye will never again see good (joy)'* (7:7). He was not resigned; he did not suffer in silence but gave vent to his sorrow in front of God and courageously asked Him to explain the reason for his afflictions and calamities. Job's cry may frighten us and may sound like rebellion and blasphemy. However, it is really a deeply touching prayer. In the later part of the book of Job, we know that he eventually succumbed himself, his suffering, his work and everything he has had and lost to the greater wisdom of God (Job 42:1-6). We are therefore called to avoid pessimistic attitude and embrace life with hope and optimism as a precious gift from God. We are called to use our times, talents and lives as Jesus (Gospel) and Paul (**second reading**) did in their ministry. St. Paul tells us in the second reading that the best way to be of service to others is to announce the Gospel to them. The good news transforms the hearts of people, gives meaning to their lives, and imparts joy and deep peace. Those who preach the Gospel, he says, should get their living from the Gospel. But Paul also urges those engaged in fulltime evangelization to reflect on their style of life and take care so that no member of the community is scandalized by the way they use the resources entrusted to them.

Today's **Gospel** provides answers to the problem of evil that we find in the first reading. The answer is: the evil that exists in the world can be defeated. Following the episode we read in the last Sunday's liturgy, St. Mark tells us of Jesus' first meeting with human suffering and misery. Jesus meets the mother-in-law of Simon Peter in bed with fever; at sunset they bring Him the sick and possessed; the following morning He set out on a journey of the neighboring towns for the people in need of His help. Jesus provides a reply to the desperate cry of Job: *it is no use blaming God for the sad condition and misery of people on earth. The only attitude we can adopt is to stand by the sufferers and fight evil with all our abilities* (Armellini, F Vol. B., p. 183). This is Jesus' attitude in all the encounters in Gospel of today. Jesus was much sought after wherever He went as people made increasing demands on His time. Yet in the thick of events, He would quietly steal away from the crowd to communicate with His heavenly Father in prayer. He could have slept late and prayed at home but He chose to leave the house to find a quiet place for prayer. It was these moments of intense communion with His Heavenly Father that provided Jesus with the necessary strength to carry out His ministry. Jesus in prayer was saturated with the thoughts, sentiments and glory of God. Hence, filled with grace and power, He had more than enough to pour out on all He met that day.

Brothers and sisters, we are here in this liturgy and we strive to enter into the same kind of communion with God as Jesus always did. By being open to whatever God wills for us each day we place ourselves in a position where we are able to absorb the strength we will need. We always need to recharge our spiritual batteries, grow in intimacy with the Lord if we want to be effective witnesses for Jesus. When we pray well we become absorbed in the presence of God and worship in spirit and truth. Like Jesus, we have to strongly believe in the power of prayer and give it quality time each day. True prayer is not a flight from the problems of life nor is it a simple-minded request for miracles. It is meeting with God and it enables us to see others as God sees them. With our strength renewed in prayer we have the task of repeating the gestures of Jesus: to get near those who have no strength to stand and help them out of the unhappy situation they are in. Happy Sunday!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if You were already there
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Let me grow in love for You and for my brothers and sisters.
My trust is in you. Amen.*

Archbishop Durocher Reflections



To access the Archbishop's daily reflections, go to the following link: <http://singandwalk.blogspot.com/> or follow him on his Facebook page, Mgr Paul-André Durocher.

Our Lady of Victory and St. Malachy News

Church Openings: Will advise all our parishioners when we have received word from the Diocese when churches can be opened again.

Funerals: Can proceed with 25 people during the Covid19 pandemic. Also the Covid-19 protocols will be followed.

Income Tax Receipts: Both parishes will issue out receipts in early 2021 for mass intentions, weekly envelopes and other donations. Our fiscal year ends Dec. 31, 2020.

On-Going Collections: During the confinement, parishioners are encouraged to continue to save used postage stamps, egg cartons, pop tabs and new and used candles. Once churches reopen, we can resume these collections.

A Coronavirus Prayer

Loving God, Your desire is for our wholeness and well-being.
We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.
We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.
We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.
We pray: May love, not fear, go viral.
Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,
You, the God who does not abandon.